AG Report No. 4 of 2003 (Civil) has pointed out that Doordarshan Kendra, Kolkata gave undue benefits in commercial terms to the sponsors of the programmes 'Aajke' and 'Mukho Mukhi' by not charging the rates as per the prescribed Rate Card.

The C and AG Para is under examination in consultation with Prasar Bharati.

Amount spent on advertisements

1592. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the details of the amount spent annually by various Ministries on advertisements during the last three years, Ministry-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Defaulting advertising agencies in Kolkata

1593. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the existing individual dues of ten top most defaulters of advertising agencies in Kolkata Doordarshan and AIR; and

(b) the number of reminders sent during the last six months to those agencies and the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Details of ten top most defaulters of advertising agencies in Kolkata Doordarshan and AIR, alongwith number of reminders sent to them is given in the Statement enclosed. (*See* below)

In so far as AIR is concerned, except the agencies under arbitration, all the agencies are clearing their outstanding dues and giving further business. Only one agency *i.e.* M/s Delcon Advertising Agency has requested for some more time to clear their dues. Presently, business with the agency is done on advance payment.

As regards Doordarshan, since no progress in the recovery of dues has been made, DDK, Kolkata has obtained legal advice and legal action against the defaulting agencies, is underway.

Statement

The details of ten most defaulters of advertising agencies in Kolkata Doordarshan and AIR

	All India Radio			Doordarshan		
S. No.	Name of Advertising Agency/ Organisation	Amount (In rupees)	Reminders issued	Name of Advertising Agency/Organisation	Amount (Rupees in Crores)	Reminders issued
1	DAVP	772771	Two	Aarambh Advertising	14.70*	Six
2	Carat Media Services (I) Ltd.	120870	Two	Channel Eight	1.55	Six
3	Delcon Advertising Agency	98610	Three	Sweet Sound	0.94	Six
4	Hindustan Thomson Associates	89037	Two	Spell Binder	0.68	Six
5	Maa Communication & Bozell	69870	Arbitration case	Sunrise Media	0.66	Six
6	Publicis Syndicate	66491	One	Prerm Films	0.66	Six
7	Arohi Advertising	15552	Arbitration case	Sweet Melody	0.65	Six
8	Everest Advertising	13957	five	Asian Ad Age	0.34	Six
9	Madhyam Advertising	13388	Seven	Continental	0.22	Six
10.	Noisy Recording Centre	11560	Arbitration case	Sar Video	0.17	Six

*The party raised objections about the amount of dues and the matter is now *subjudice*.